

important factor in keeping people out of jail and in reducing the number of repeat offenders swelling our prisons.

Boosting overall adult literacy levels has long been a goal of mine. To this end, the secretary of state's office has made a concerted effort to assist the Illinois Department of Corrections and local law-enforcement officials in offering literacy programs to as many inmates as possible.

Over the last three years, my office has funded volunteer literacy tutoring for 6,107 inmates. There are currently volunteer programs in 22 state correctional facilities and 30 county and municipal jails.

In 1995, 785 community volunteers and inmate/peer tutors helped Illinois prisoners raise their reading levels. More inmates can be helped to overcome their literacy difficulties, however, if more volunteer tutors were available. I urge the citizens of Illinois to donate a few hours of their time to a local literacy program.

In addition to these volunteer efforts, I have awarded a \$64,400 literacy grant to the Illinois Department of Corrections School District 428 to fund reading programs at the Dwight, Kankakee, Pontiac and Sheridan facilities and to supplement literacy efforts at 13 other state correctional centers. More than 430 inmates were served by these programs. Test scores indicated that the reading levels of these prisoners improved at a faster rate than the levels of other adult literacy students.

As the Tribune pointed out, education is not a panacea for reducing recidivism. But it is a proven fact that raising the reading skills of inmates helps make them productive members of society after they serve their terms and reduces the chances that they will commit another crime.

GEORGE H. RYAN,
Secretary of State.•

THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT

•Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of a very special event in the State of Connecticut this year. On Monday, May 6, 1996, the town of New London will celebrate its 350th anniversary, marking a milestone of historic significance to both the State and our Nation.

And what a history New London has. The one-room schoolhouse in which patriot Nathan Hale taught prior to his hanging by the British as a Revolutionary War spy stands in Union Plaza as a testament to the New England grit with which the city has prospered for centuries.

Founded in 1646 by John Winthrop Jr., New London is situated in the area the Pequot Indians called "Nameaug," or "good fishing place." Indeed, after Winthrop negotiated with the Pequots, the new colony's locale, New London, grew rapidly into a prosperous fishing and seafaring city on the west side of the Thames River.

Throughout the 17th and 18th centuries, the port of New London bustled with trading vessels carrying merchants and their goods between the other colonies, Europe, and the Caribbean. With the barter of lumber and horses for sugar, molasses, and rum, as well active trade of other goods and plentiful fishing reserves, the local

economy flourished. The whaling industry soon took hold, and by the mid 1800's whaling was the local economy's mainstay. While that industry died quickly after whales became scarce, New London's whaling heritage is still visible throughout town. New London later grew into a manufacturing center, with silk mills and machine shops, and became a major banking, industry, and transportation hub with easy railroad and ferry access up and down the East Coast.

New London's coastline location has not only been economically important, but also strategically key. In 1776 during the Revolutionary War, the first colonial naval expedition sailed from New London, and local privateers beat the British at sea during the war. Although the town was burned in retaliation, New London was rebuilt and the area became a vital test and training ground for America's maritime forces. The U.S. Coast Guard Academy has been based in New London since 1910, and the city contributes much to nuclear submarine and Naval technology research and development via the many defense contractors based in the area.

Today, Mr. President, New London remains a busy eastern seaport city that is home to a vibrant business community, several colleges, an arts center, and vacation resorts. And the same New England grit that brought New London through the darkest days of the Revolutionary War survives.

For 350 years, the city of New London has contributed to the economic, military, and cultural progress of the United States of America. Its history precedes the founding of our Nation. Few American cities can lay claim to such a rich heritage, and as the motto for the celebration indicates, this is a time for New London to rejoice in "Pride in the Past—Progress in the Future." I am proud to join the citizens of New London and all Connecticut's citizens in celebrating this special birthday.•

CONGRESSIONAL FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE

•Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the significant efforts of the Congressional Fire Services Institute, including those of Executive Director Bill Webb and others, in organizing the Eighth Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner last night. Due to the tireless commitment of CFSI, this terrific event provided a highly appropriate opportunity to honor and thank the men and women of the fire service who risk their own lives every day to protect the lives and property of others.

In the 8 years since its inception, the annual dinner has grown beyond expectations, attracting an increasingly large number of friends and members of the fire service from across the country. It has attracted scores of dignitaries over the past 8 years including

President Clinton who spoke at last year's dinner. Last night's program featured Vice-President AL GORE and majority leader DOLE and a number of Congressional Caucus members from both sides of the aisle demonstrating a continued bipartisan commitment and expression of gratitude to the fire service.

Mr. President, I am pleased to have this opportunity to commend the Congressional Fire Institute for its efforts in promoting fire related issues and in honoring the men and women of the fire service in a way that reflects the grace and valor with which they protect us all.•

DONALD MINTZ

•Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, America lost a real civic leader, Louisiana and New Orleans lost a political leader who believed in cooperation, not confrontation, and I lost a good friend far too early in his life.

Don Mintz lived a beautiful life, raised a beautiful family and had a wonderful wife Susan, who together contributed so much to so many.

I ask that an editorial on Donald Mintz that ran in the New Orleans Times Picayune on April 30, 1996, which expresses the feelings of so many, be printed in the RECORD.

The editorial follows:

DONALD MINTZ

Donald Mintz, who died unexpectedly Sunday of a heart attack, was a New Orleanian first and foremost. Though he never held public office, Mr. Mintz set a highly public example of how to be a citizen in our complex, multiracial community. He was as much at home in a corporate boardroom as in the humblest neighborhood.

He tried to connect our disparate worlds. He was a builder of bridges between his black and white friends, a man of faith nationally recognized for his work as a Jewish lay leader and, most importantly, a dreamer of dreams, which he worked with ferocious energy to realize. One of his fondest, of becoming mayor of New Orleans, was unfulfilled after unsuccessful campaigns in 1990 and 1994.

But even without the portfolio of office, Mr. Mintz was a doer, a relentless actor and producer on the city's stage. There was nothing lukewarm about him. Whatever caught his interest had him thoroughly absorbed. And then he was relentless, driven, sometimes brazen, always dedicated, especially to New Orleans.

As Marc Morial, the man who defeated him most recently for mayor, said: "Above all, he was a committed New Orleanian."

By his death at age 53, Mr. Mintz had well beyond a lifetime's worth of accomplishments. He had been chairman of the Anti-Defamation League's advisory board and achieved national stature in this country's Jewish community; he had been a founder of a law firm; chairman of the Dock Board, the Downtown Development District, the United Way and the Criminal Justice Task Force on Violent Street Crime, and president of the Metropolitan Area Committee, Kingsley House, Touro Synagogue and the Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans.

He was the managing partner of several Warehouse District renovations, a member of the Archbishop's Community Appeal campaign committee and a board member of The Chamber/New Orleans and the River Region and the New Orleans Symphony.